

**Office of Water Protection**  
**Significant Program Accomplishments Fiscal Year 2017**

*Strategic Goals - Goal 2: Protecting America's Waters*

- Issued first in the nation direct implementation draft UIC Class III and V permits and proposed aquifer exemption for the Dewey-Burdock project, an in-situ uranium recovery project in the Black Hills area of South Dakota. Because this area is identified as a sacred site for many tribes, EPA will continue to offer meaningful consultation to interested tribes throughout the UIC permitting process.
- Issued EPA's draft oversight report on the North Dakota Industrial Commission's (NDIC) UIC program that identified some deficiencies in the State's implementation of its Class II program. Anticipate finalization of the report in FY18.
- Issued a formal denial of American Gilsonite Company's request to exempt a portion of the Birds Next Aquifer in Utah's Uinta Basin for fluid disposal based on the uncertainty of where fluid would move and whether the USDW immediately outside the exempted area could be protected from injection operations.
- Proposed EPA approval of North Dakota's UIC Class VI program regulating long-term storage of carbon dioxide. EPA's approval would authorize implementation of the first State Class VI program in the nation.
- Issued formal denial of a UIC Class V permit application submitted for the Winona Inn/Lodge at Mount Rushmore for the facility's large capacity septic systems based on lack of data to demonstrate that future operations will not impact local USDWs and nearby public water systems.
- Evaluated 216 small non-community public water systems served by ground water sources in Wyoming and Region 8 Indian country and created a Decision Document outlining the rationale for placing these systems on monthly monitoring under the Revised Total Coliform Rule to protect public health. The Decision Document was signed by the Region 8 Acting Regional Administrator.
- Completed ten 8-hour workshops in locations throughout Region 8 to train drinking water operators, town officials, and technical assistance providers on the Lead and Copper Rule and provide hands-on assistance in developing tap sample site plans to comply with the Rule.
- Collaborated with EPA's Children's Environmental Health Program to assist state departments of education and the Department of Indian Education in reducing lead in drinking water in schools.
- Participated in a HQ-led File Review on the Region 8 Wyoming and Tribal Direct Implementation Public Water Supply Program to detect discrepancies in compliance determinations and ways to identify violations more quickly. Anticipate receiving a final report in early FY18.
- Actively participated in national workgroup to design a state oversight framework for drinking water to support consistent implementation of the SDWA nationwide, and began applying the national framework to Region 8 states based on work completed in FY17, including completion of a File Review on Utah's Division of Drinking Water in August 2017.
- In FY17, Region 8 continued to strengthen its drinking water sanitary survey program, in which EPA and its contractors conduct about 250 on-site evaluations of public water system facilities each year. Region 8 approved Quality Assurance Project Plans for each of the five contractors that conduct surveys on behalf of Region 8, ensuring that the information collected in the field is of consistent high quality to support Region 8's decisions to protect public water supplies in Wyoming and Region 8 Indian country.